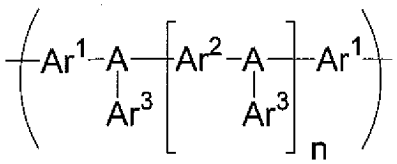
PENDING CLAIMS

1. (Original) An optionally substituted oligomer or polymer comprising a repeat unit of formula (I):



(I)

wherein n is at least 1; each A is a nitrogen atom or optionally substituted phosphorus atom; each Ar^1 is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted arylene or heteroarylene; each Ar^3 is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl; Ar^2 represents an optionally substituted arylene or heteroarylene comprising a linking ring to which the two atoms A are both directly linked; and at least one of Ar^2, and / or either or both of Ar^1 is substituted with at least one substituent.

2. (Original) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 1 wherein the substituent on Ar^1 or Ar^2 is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted, aliphatic or alicyclic C_{1-20} alkyl; C_{1-20} fluoroalkyl; C_{1-20} alkoxy; halogen; nitro; cyano; sulfone and sulfoxide.

3. (Previously presented) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 1 wherein Ar^2 carries one or two substituents only.

4. (Previously presented) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 1, wherein each Ar^1 and Ar^2 are phenyl.

5. (Previously presented) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 1, wherein Ar^3 is optionally substituted phenyl.

6. (Previously presented) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 1, wherein the oligomer or polymer comprises at least a second repeat unit.

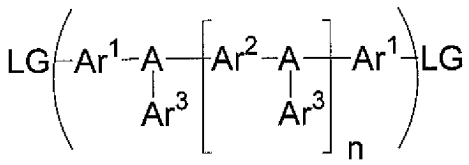
7. (Original) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 6 wherein the further repeat unit is conjugated to the first repeat unit.

8. (Previously presented) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 6 wherein any further repeat unit is selected from optionally substituted phenyl, fluorene, spirobifluorene, indenofluorene, heteroaryl, dihydrophenanthrene or triarylamine.

9. (Previously presented) An oligomer or polymer according to claim 1, wherein at least one Ar^3 is substituted by a substituent selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted, branched, cyclic or linear C_{1-20} alkyl or C_{1-20} alkoxy; C_{1-20} fluoroalkyl and fluorine.

10. (Previously presented) A blend comprising the oligomer or polymer according to claim 1, and an organic compound capable of at least one of the functions of hole transport, electron transport and emission.

11. (Original) An optionally substituted monomer of formula (II):



(II)

wherein n is at least 1;

each A is a nitrogen atom or optionally substituted phosphorus atom;

each Ar^1 is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted arylene or heteroarylene;

each Ar^3 is the same or different and independently represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl;

Ar^2 represents an optionally substituted arylene or heteroarylene comprising a linking ring to which the two atoms A are both directly linked; and at least one of Ar^2, and / or either or both of Ar^1 is substituted with at least one substituent

LG is the same or different and represents a leaving group capable of participating in a polycondensation mediated by a metal of variable oxidation state; and at least one of Ar^2 and / or either or both of Ar^1 is substituted with at least one substituent.

12. (Previously presented) A monomer according to claim 11 wherein each LG is the same or different and is independently a halogen; a reactive boronic group selected from a boronic acid group, a boronic ester group and a borane group; or a moiety of formula -O-SO_2-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl.

13. (Previously presented) A method of forming an oligomer or polymer comprising the step of oligomerising or polymerising a monomer according to claim 11 wherein said oligomerisation or polymerisation is mediated by a metal of variable oxidation state.

14. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein each LG is independently a halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO_2-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl, and the monomer of formula (II) is oligomerised or polymerised in the presence of a nickel complex catalyst.

15. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 14 wherein the monomer of formula (II) is oligomerised or polymerised with a second aromatic monomer in the presence of a palladium complex catalyst and a base and

a. each LG is the same or different and comprises a reactive boronic group and the second monomer comprises two reactive groups independently selected from halogen and a moiety of formula -O-SO_2-Z as defined in claim 12, or

b. each LG independently comprises a halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO_2-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl, and the second monomer comprises two reactive boron groups which are the same or different.

16. (Previously presented) A method according to claim 13 wherein one LG is a reactive boron group; the other LG is a halogen or a moiety of formula -O-SO_2-Z wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of optionally substituted alkyl and aryl, and the monomer of formula (II) is oligomerised or polymerised in the presence of a palladium complex catalyst and a base.

17. (Previously presented) An optical device comprising the oligomer or polymer according to claim 1.

18. (Previously presented) An optical device comprising the blend according to claim 10.

19. (Previously presented) An optical device according to claim 17 wherein the oligomer or polymer or blend is located in a layer between a first electrode for injection of holes and a second electrode for injection of electrons.

20. (Previously presented) An optical device according to claim 17, wherein the optical device is an electroluminescent device.

21. (Previously presented) A switching device comprising an oligomer or polymer according to claim 1.

22. (Previously presented) A field effect transistor comprising an insulator having a first side and a second side; a gate electrode located on the first side of the insulator; an oligomer or polymer according to claim 1 located on the second side of the insulator; and a drain electrode and a source electrode located on the oligomer or polymer.

23. (Original) An integrated circuit comprising a field effect transistor according to claim 22.